

Fall 2014

# Department of Public Administration Newsletter Fall 2014

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#### Special points of interest:

- Brockport welcomes new MPA students this Fall
- Introducing Combined Degree Students
- A message from our Chair, Dr. Celia Watt
- Meet our Faculty
- Student Spotlights
- Students in the News
- Pi Alpha Alpha Global Honor Society
- Upcoming Events

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# The Department of Public Administration Fall 2014 Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 1

September 2014

## Welcome New Masters of Public Administration Students!

We want to greet our new MPA students with a warm welcome to the program and welcome back our current students as well. This newsletter is the first of its kind for the Department of Public Administration at Brockport. We believe in accommodating our students, faculty, staff, and alumni to the best of our ability. In response, we have decided to use the Department Newsletter as a way to inform the MPA community of student achievements, upcoming events, academic programs, and any important changes to the MPA Program.

The Department Newsletter is our way of getting in touch with you! Please let us know if you have any suggestions in regard to information you

would like to see in our future newsletters. In this issue we will discuss the many different opportunities you have as students in the MPA Program. Our newsletters will allow you to take a look at what our students and faculty are up to, besides attending classes here at the MetroCenter.

Thank you for your attention,  
Danielle Pierleoni (Former Combined Degree Student, Current MPA Student, Graduate Assistant, & MPA Newsletter Editor)



We encourage students to take pride in naming our Newsletter. Please send your ideas for a name to [Danielle Pierleoni](#) by Tuesday, October 28th to win a SUNY Brockport Pint Glass. Thank you!

## Introducing New MPA Students for Summer & Fall 2014



Fatima Banister

I am a new student in the MPA program. I have a Bachelor's from SUNY Buffalo and a MSW from SUNY Brockport/Nazareth. I am currently working at Anthony Jordan Health Center. My goal is to work in healthcare administration. I enjoy spending time with family and friends, eating at great restaurants and traveling!



***“I am confident  
that the  
program will  
prepare me for  
a successful  
career in the  
public health  
field”-Daniel  
Goff***



**Sarah Carrillo**

After receiving my Bachelor's Degree in Social Work from Brockport in May 2014, I decided that I want to work in Social Work at more of a macro-level. The Public Admin Program should allow me to do that.



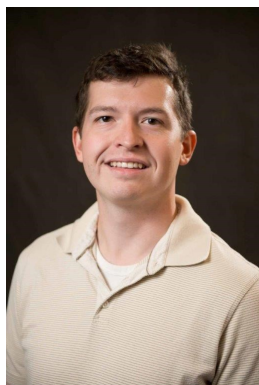
**Bridgette Fornter**

I graduated from Brockport in December 2013 (Bachelors in Political Science with a double minor in Math and English Lit), and I currently work in Visitor Services for the Genesee Country Museum.



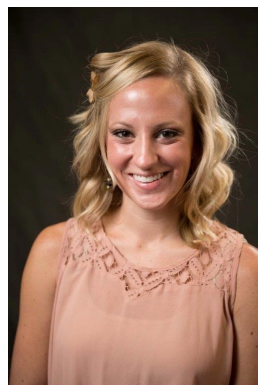
**Colin Fleming**

I have a Bachelor's in Music Business from SUNY Fredonia and I am the only ginger in my family, which is a constant source of pride.



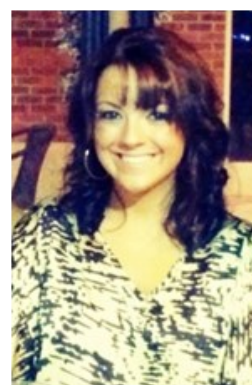
**Daniel Goff**

Brockport has given me many great experiences as an undergrad, majoring in political science and international business; and after speaking with many MPA alumni and faculty, I am confident that the program will prepare me for a successful career in the public health field.



**Mallory Hawkins**

I graduated from SUNY Oneonta in May and am happy to be a new student in the MPA Program at Brockport.



**Summer Jensen**

I graduated from SUNY Geneseo with a Bachelor's degree in Political Science. I am now a full-time graduate student pursuing my Master's in Public Administration with a Public Management emphasis.





Heidi Markham

I'm currently a full-time MPA student focusing on a non-profit concentration. I also work at Heritage Christian Services, am an avid reader, and like to write poetry when inspiration hits.



Dorothy Milford

I am an RN at Rochester General Hospital and desire to impact our community. I love being a nurse and hope to reach more people with a Master's degree.



Kristen Muldoon

I have a Bachelor's of Music in Music Therapy from Nazareth College. I currently work for Unity Health System and I am excited to pursue a career in Health Care Management!



***"I love being a nurse and hope to reach more people with a Master's Degree"-  
Dorothy Milford***



Courtney Perkowski

I have an Associate Degree in Education from GCC, a Bachelor's in Psychology and Political Science, and now I am currently working on a Masters in Public Administration.



Kristen Rund

I have a Masters in Physical Therapy and enjoy working with patients with neurologic illnesses/injuries.







**“Our Combined Degree students are focused on getting a head start in their careers.”**



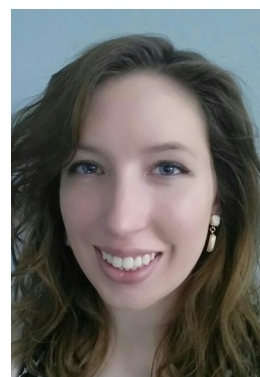
Karoline Schulz

I am the Lead Occupational Therapist at an SNF. I enjoy working with patients of varying disabilities to expand their independence.



Dana St. Aubin

I graduated from the College at Brockport in May. I am very interested in pursuing a future career in Public Admin.



Lindsay Stumpf

My name is Lindsay Stumpf and this is my second semester in the MPA program (Public Management Emphasis). I currently work and attend class full time and expect to graduate in May 2016. I graduated with a Bachelor's in Sociology from SUNY Brockport in May 2014 upon the completion of my Honor's thesis. I am interested in a career related to improving public education or income equity.

## Meet our Combined Degree Students

Undergraduate-level students majoring in Political Science or Sociology at Brockport have the opportunity to finish an MPA Degree within a year after graduating with a Bachelor's Degree. Those admitted to the Combined Degree Program take 12 credits worth of graduate level PAD courses during their senior year as an undergraduate. Our Combined Degree students are focused on getting a head start in their careers.



Joshua Fidler

I am currently enrolled in the MPA Combined Program. This academic year I will be finishing my bachelor's degree in political science with a minor in international studies. I eventually plan to pursue a career in government and public service upon the completion of my formal education.



## New Students Not Pictured in our Newsletter:

### Graduate Level Students:

Michael Adams  
Lyndsay Arocho  
Lindsey Baulmer  
Michele Boyd  
Chantelle Brown  
Candace Coniglio  
Zachary Cogle  
Coty Cowles  
Katie Eckelberger  
Michael Edwards  
Breanna Grzech  
Angela Held  
James Maddox  
Jessica Martin

Jamaal Nathan  
Christina Nicholson

Jane Parcerro  
Kimberly Smith  
Shavonne Vasquez  
Emilee Vitelli  
Eric Witmer

### Combined Degree Students:

Stella Hovey  
Christopher Santillo



## A Message from the Chair

Dear MPA Community,

It has been a wonderful start to the academic year getting to know our incoming students and deepening acquaintances with our current students. I am also actively reaching out to MPA alumni as their successes and challenges are lessons for us all. I hope you all will continue to network with prospective students, each other, and alumni at our Fall Open House (November 11<sup>th</sup> – see Open House details) and at our End of Semester Networking and Celebration Event (December 12<sup>th</sup> – see End of Semester Event). These are both great opportunities to increase your network of similarly focused people. This semester students continue to meet for Pub Night monthly which is a great way to get to know your peers and form those lifelong friendships ‘made in graduate school.’ Career services recently began a MPA Job Group for MPA students only and I feel confident that those students will enjoy employment in their professional areas upon graduate if not soon thereafter. These are all non-curricular opportunities that I hope you take full advantage of in addition to your academic endeavors. Your MPA is from a NASPAA accredited program, which means that you are guaranteed to get the gold standard of education. Brockport’s NASPAA accredited MPA program is one of 11 in New York State and the only one in the Finger Lakes / Western New York Region. However, our program is only as strong as you excel, engage, and make differences in your lives and communities. If I or the department can ever be instrumental in complementing your vision for change, please meet with me and share your thoughts.



My best,  
Dr. Celia Watt

## Faculty Profiles

### Who are your professors, really?



Dr. Celia Watt, PhD.

I have been with the college since 1998. I have a doctorate in Educational Psychology from the University of Texas. My first appointment with the college was in the Department of Health Science for 17 years and now I am chairing and appointed in the Department of Public Administration. I have taught a variety of courses ranging from substance abuse counseling, interpersonal communication, contemporary issues in health, ethics, and statistics courses. My research interests are diverse although tobacco control topics span my academic career including journal publications and a NIH grant (RO3). My primary service contributions at the college level aside from serving as chair, have been starting and administering for several years an alcohol education program for students violating the campus alcohol policy and chairing the Academic Success Center Committee to conceptualize the creation of a state of the art student center to promote academic achievement. In my free time, I enjoy spending time with my 11 year old daughter and cooking.



Dr. Faith Prather, PhD.

I have been with the MPA program for 25 years, and my time here has been satisfying and enervating. I teach Organizational Behavior, Strategic Management, and Negotiations and Conflict Management. Before coming to Brockport, I was a junior high school teacher, then I moved on to the area of mental health. Later, I worked at Buffalo State College, where I served as co-director of management training for administrators and commissioned officers in the New York State Department of Social Services. In this position, I co-authored a three volume training module for public administrators, which has served as template for leadership education and training in human services since 1987.



Dr. Wendy Wright, PhD.

I am a proud educator with a Bachelor's from SUNY College at Geneseo and a Masters/PHD in Political Science from Binghamton University. I teach several nonprofit classes in the Public Administration Department, including Foundations of the Nonprofit Sector; Nonprofit Management; Marketing for the Nonprofit Sector; and Grant Writing. In addition to teaching I am the internship coordinator and the advisement coordinator for the department.





Dr. Ryan Yeung, PhD.

I am an assistant professor of public administration at the State University of New York College at Brockport. I received my doctorate in public administration and policy from Syracuse University, a master's in public administration from New York University and bachelor's degree in Economics and American Studies from Amherst College. My research focuses on public finance and education policy issues. I am originally from New York City. In the few hours I have free, I enjoy yoga, studying classical mythology and civilization, and rooting for the New York Giants.



Philip LaPorta, MPA.

I am the Manager of Training and Safety for the City of Rochester. I am a Human Resource professional with 30 years of wide-ranging experience in personnel administration; development planning; talent management; the design, delivery, and evaluation of training programs for management and staff; and success as measured by City programs' growth, diversification, employee satisfaction, safety programming, and personal recognition by the City for both customer and meritorious service. I am also a 1981 graduate of the Brockport MPA program.



Dr. Marilyn Klotz, PhD.

I received my Bachelor's degree in Political Science from Swarthmore College in Swarthmore, PA and my PhD in Public Policy and Political Science from the School of Public and Environmental Affairs at Indiana University, Bloomington. My research interests focus on social welfare policy broadly and, specifically, local and non-profit responses to the needs of recipients of public assistance. Prior to starting my adjunct faculty position in the Public Administration program at SUNY-Brockport, I had taught American Politics and public policy in the Political Science department at SUNY-Geneseo. Before attending graduate school, I worked for three years as a legislative assistant for the House Majority Leader in Washington, DC, where I was responsible for economic issues such as taxes, trade and local economic development. After completing my graduate courses, I worked for three years at the Center for Governmental Research (CGR) in Rochester, NY as a research associate. In my free time, I enjoy spending time with my family, taking the family dog for long walks, going to the gym, reading mysteries and perusing the *New York Times Magazine*.





Jessica Muratore, MPA.

I am a Compliance Coordinator at MVP Health Care. I hold a Bachelor of Science in Political Science and Psychology, and a Master in Public Administration both from the State University of New York College at Brockport. Driven by a passion to give back to my community, I currently serve as Vice President of the Gay Alliance of the Genesee Valley and as an Advisory Board Member of the College at Brockport's Public Administration Program. My service on the Advisory Board led me to my current position as Adjunct Faculty with the Public Administration Program.



Darby Knox, MPA.

I am the Executive Director of Development Communications and Campaign at The College at Brockport. My most recent responsibilities include management of the College's largest comprehensive campaign with a goal of \$25 million. I also oversee the areas of development communications, annual funding, scholarships, donor relations and special events for the College. I have a background in marketing communications and branding for both for-profit and non-profit entities. I recently completed a master's degree in Public Administration.



Alexander Kralles, MPA.

I am the Manager of Operations for Rotork Controls, a global manufacturer of valve automation products. Previously, I worked at Eastman Kodak for over 20 years in a variety of management roles in manufacturing, finance, logistics, supply chain, and operations. I also worked at Carestream Health and Datrose Industries in key operational leadership roles. I hold a Bachelors of Science in Industrial Engineering and a Masters degree in Public Administration (1994). I have been teaching in the Department of Public Administration at SUNY Brockport for over 20 years. I specialize in management and leadership courses.

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Bradford Daly, PhD.

I am excited to be teaching PAD 687, Statistics for Managers, in the Department of Public Administration this year! I first started teaching as an adjunct at Brockport College in January 2006—my previous appointments have been with the Psychology and Education departments. My full-time job is as a school psychologist at Wayne Central High School in Ontario, New York, where my professional responsibilities include assessing students, counseling students, consulting with parents and educators, working with the Committee on Special Education, and when time allows, using statistics to help improve various functions in the school. I earned my Ph.D. from the University at Buffalo (SUNY)'s program in Counseling and School Psychology in 2007 and I am a Nationally Certified School Psychologist. When I am not engaged in being a psychologist or instructor, most of my free time is spent with my family, including my two daughters, Madison and Mackenzie (4 and 1 years old, respectively).

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## Fall Student Spotlights

Each month, the Department of Public Administration honors a specific student regarded by their professors and peers as a high academic achiever. Each chosen scholar is featured as one of our Student Spotlights on the Department's website. More Student Spotlights can be found here: <http://www.brockport.edu/pubadmin/profiles/index.html>

### September: Alissa Gee



Alissa is the Site Coordinator for School-Age Child Care at Southeast YMCA. She is currently working towards an MPA Degree with an emphasis in Nonprofit Management and an Arts Management Certificate. She aspires to find a career that focuses on child and family development through the arts.

### October: Dennis Kohlmeier



Dennis is a Police Lieutenant for the town of Webster. He plans to graduate from the MPA Program in Summer 2015 with an emphasis in Public Management. He hopes to use his Master's Degree to climb the administrative ladder in his field.

## Students in the News

Current MPA student, Sarah Abbamonte, was featured in the September 14th issue of the Democrat and Chronicle. She was recognized for her recent job promotion at the Susan B. Anthony Museum. She is now the Director of Communications. Congratulations, Sarah! More information about Rochester professionals "On the Move" can be found here: <http://rocdocs.democratandchronicle.com/database/move>



## Pi Alpha Alpha (PAA), the Global Honor Society for Public Affairs and Administration

### What is Pi Alpha Alpha?

Pi Alpha Alpha (PAA) is the Global Honor Society for Public Affairs and Administration, with more than 160 chapters around the world. PAA is limited to students who meet high academics standards in NASPAA accredited schools. SUNY Brockport welcomes qualified students to this program and gives them the opportunity to branch out to other public service professionals.

### What are the benefits?

Members of PAA are a part of an international society of professional scholars. Those accepted into the society receive a certificate and a pin. PAA is a well established association recognized and valued by many organizations. This is a way to connect with others in your community who also work within the field of public administration. PAA is also something that will spruce up your resume!

### How do I qualify?

Applicants for PAA need the following requirements:

- Completion of 30 credit hours at the graduate level
- A minimum GPA of 3.70

For those interested in applying this Fall, please request an application from Melissa Jordan at [mjordan@brockport.edu](mailto:mjordan@brockport.edu). Applications for the Fall semester must be turned in by November 1, 2014.

If your application for PAA is approved, you are required to pay a one-time membership fee of \$50.00.

### More Information

More details about PAA can be found on the organization's website at: <http://pialphaalpha.org/>

### The Pi Alpha Alpha Oath:

*"I pledge my support for the intellectual and professional advancement of the art and science of public administration and public affairs. I shall honor and respect the virtues and values of public service and those who serve.*

*I shall uphold the eternal need for education that imbues public administrators with traditions of democratic governance.*

*Moreover, as a member of Pi Alpha Alpha, I shall uphold the highest ethical standards applying to public service and will endeavor to encourage and engage in meaningful interaction with other members."*

STATE  
UNIVERSITY OF  
NEW YORK  
THE COLLEGE AT  
BROCKPORT

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[www.brockport.edu  
/pubadmin/](http://www.brockport.edu/pubadmin/)

# Stay Involved with Your MPA Community!

## Upcoming Events this Fall:

### October

#### MPA Job Search Group

Every other Wednesday (October 1st, 15th, and 29th) from 4:30-5:15pm at the MetroCenter in room Seminar B, located on the first floor across from the Library. Please register with Phyllis Griswold before attending.

#### Pub Night

Thursday, October 23rd at 8:30pm. Location will be at Joe Bean Coffee Roasters.  
344 University Ave, Rochester, NY 14607

### November

#### Fall Open House

Tuesday, November 11th at the MetroCenter in our Grand Hallway from 5:00pm-8:00pm.

#### MPA Job Search Group

Wednesday, November 12th (no meeting November 26th due to Thanksgiving break) from 4:30-5:15pm at the MetroCenter in room 319. Please register with Phyllis Griswold before attending.

#### Pub Night

Thursday, November 20th at 8:30pm. Location will be at The Old Toad; a British Pub located on 277 Alexander St, Rochester, NY 14607.

### December

#### MPA Job Search Group

Wednesday, December 3rd from 4:30-5:15pm at the MetroCenter in room Seminar B. Please register with Phyllis Griswold before attending.

#### End of Semester Networking and Celebration

##### Event

Friday, December 12th from 5:00pm to 7:30pm at Victoire Belgian Bar & Bistro, located at 120 East Ave. Rochester, NY 14604.

\*Please note that dates, locations, and times are subject to change. Students will be informed when changes do occur. Thank you.

## What will take place during these events?

#### MPA Job Search Group

Are you an MPA student graduating in December or May? You are invited to explore your career and job search in a hands-on-team format. Find a better job, faster by joining The MPA Job Club. Reporting on job search preparation progress and discussing key job search topics will be included in each session.

The MPA Job Club is an ongoing, working group that meets every other Wednesday from 4:30-5:15pm at the MetroCenter. Contact the Group's Facilitator, Senior Career Counselor, [Phyllis Griswold](mailto:Phyllis.Griswold@brockport.edu), via email or at 585-395-2159 to register.

#### Pub Nights

These events are designed as an informal way for MPA students to interact with one another. Students meet at fun venues in the Rochester area to learn more about their peers outside of the classroom setting. This is a great way to network and build useful relationships. For more information about Pub Night Events, please join Brockport's Public Administration group on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/brockportpubadmin/) or contact Pub Night Coordinators: [Brittnee Crawford](mailto:Brittnee.Crawford@brockport.edu) and [Danielle Pierleoni](mailto:Danielle.Pierleoni@brockport.edu).

#### Open House

Our open houses are designed for Brockport's faculty, staff, current students, prospective students, and alumni to mingle. There will be free appetizers, drinks, and other activities taking place. This is a way for students to get to know their colleagues and network.

#### End of Semester Celebration

As you may have already guessed, this event serves as a way for MPA students to celebrate the commencement of the Fall Semester 2014. Faculty and staff will honor students graduating in December and inductees to the Pi Alpha Alpha Honor Society. Free food and drinks will be served. Our End of Semester Celebrations are not to be missed!